

Date: April 15, 2009

To: Mayor and Council Members

From: John Archocosky, Manager

RE: Monthly Activity Report

Winter has been hanging on, but over the past week or so, we have finally begun to see signs of spring. In addition to the weather improving, another clear sign of spring is that the city crew has begun our spring cleanup activities. They have begun to prepare the parks for use by the public. The West Iron County School has already begun to use Nelson field and Bachman Park for tennis and track practices, with more activities to follow soon.

The DPW has begun the street sweeping activities. As a result of the icy winter conditions there appears to be much more sand to collect from the streets than in past years. Normally the spring rain helps to wash the road salt and sand to the shoulders which aids the cleanup process. This spring however, the lack of any moisture has increased the amount of work required by the street sweeper. The city's sweeper is beginning to show its age and is requiring more and more maintenance to keep it going. In the near future, the city will have to begin budgeting for its replacement.

The Water Department has remained focused on repair work of the Hunter Road Tank and the well house #4 in Nanaimo Park. We have had to place both of these projects on hold until we can develop long range planning solutions to our overall water distribution system. Prior to making the obvious repairs, the city needs to be certain that the replacement parts will adequately serve the long range needs. I have met with James Rice from the Water Quality Division at MDEQ and discussed our goals in detail. Mr. Rice has offered their assistance by reviewing our plans before we make any major financial commitments in system repairs.

Clerk Anderson, Attorney Tousignant, Police Chief Goriesky, and I have been working on the final details prior to implementation of the revisions to our Solid Waste Ordinance. The notice required by law was published on April 1st thus it will become effective on May 1st. Additional information will be forthcoming in the form of public notices/reminders in the local paper. Individuals who live outside of the city limits in particular should be mindful of the fact that if they are caught bringing garbage into the city illegally, they will be subject to a \$100 fine and/or 90 days in jail. Such illegal activity is a misdemeanor and will be cited under the provisions of Michigan State law MCL 750.552a.

Among several other issues, the Clerk's office is preparing to handle the West Iron County School election on Tuesday May 5, 2009. Please remember to vote.

The Treasurer's office is in the process of preparing next year's budget. Copies of the draft budget will be provided to the Council on or before May 1st.

A very special thanks goes out to Ron Basso and Julie Melchiori for their hard work in assembling our most recent grant request. The application is for supplement funding for the Central School project in the amount of \$297,000 from MSHDA's Community and Development Program Fund. Although it is highly competitive, I feel we have a good chance at some level of grant dollars. We will keep you posted on the results.

I personally have been busy with all our Stimulus Package grant requests; the status of which you will find included in our "Pending Issues List" updates.